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tries to show that we know nothing either of the life of Plautus or his name. The anecdotes of his life are not genuine, and as to his name, we have no reason to call him aught but *Plautus*, though that was a nickname. *Maccius* is but the name of his profession, and *T* has no authority. The third chapter is devoted to the discussion of Plautus' relation to his originals, the fourth chapter to the Prologues, which Leo holds to be in the main genuine.

GONZALEZ LODGE.

C. Suetoni Tranquilli Divus Augustus. Edited with historical introduction, commentary, appendices and indices by Evelyn S. Shuckburgh, M. A., late Fellow and Assistant Tutor of Emmanuel College, Cambridge. Macmillan & Co., New York, 1896. 8vo, 215 pp. \$2.75.

The main object of this edition is historical. "My chief desire," says the editor, "has been to illustrate the work of Suetonius by putting before the reader, as fully as space would permit, the materials which exist for constructing the history of the life and times of Augustus and which expand and explain the necessarily brief and summarized statements in the Biography itself." Less attention, therefore, is given to points of text and style than is perhaps usual in an ordinary commentary to a classical author. But such notes on these subjects as occur, though brief, are generally luminous and instructive. The text is mainly that of Roth (Leipzig, 1890).

The preface contains a brief account of the style of Suetonius, in which due emphasis is laid upon the individuality of it. Following is a short list of the principal editions, of monographs devoted to the style and diction of Suetonius, and of works on the life of Augustus. In the latter I am somewhat surprised not to see V. Gardthausen's '*Augustus und seine Zeit*,' Leipzig, 1891 ff. This certainly would be 'found useful.'

The introduction deals with—1, the authorities for the life and reign of Augustus and the rise and development of the principate; 2, the life and writings of Suetonius; 3, his authorities for the life of Augustus; followed by, 4, a few remarks on some special points of text-criticism, and, pp. xxxvii–xliv, a chronological table of the principal events during the life of Augustus.

Pages 1–176 contain the text and commentary, which seems to be well fitted for the purpose intended, being carefully written, with references to authorities bearing upon the points in question and with reproductions of some of the most important coins of the period. Beyond the small number mentioned in the introduction, no MSS readings are given. To the list of *errata* might be added *Gell*, 13 instead of *Galba*, 13, p. 147, first column, second line from the bottom.

Especially valuable and important is Appendix A, pp. 177–95, which contains the text of the Monumentum Ancyranum, with a brief introduction on the history of it, former editions, etc. Appendix B, pp. 197–200, is both novel and useful. It is in the nature of an excursus on Suet. Iulius, 88, being, so far as is now possible, a complete list of the assassins of Julius Caesar. Under each name is given the political history and manner of death, with full references to the ancient authorities. The book ends with a table of the family and connections of Augustus, followed by the indices.

Prof. Shuckburgh's work, curiously enough the first in connection with Suetonius by an English scholar, is a welcome addition to our knowledge of one who, in some respects, is an unusually difficult author. As a biographer, and especially as a biographer with his peculiar methods of composition, Suetonius, above all other Latin writers, seems to stand in need of just the sort of enlightenment that the editor has given him. In no case, perhaps, is this so evident as in the biography selected. By a curious fatality the two greatest of the Roman emperors, Augustus and Trajan, happen to be the very ones about whom we, in some respects, know the least. There is no Roman emperor of whom so many anecdotes are still preserved, but nothing in ancient authorities bridges the chasm between Octavianus the triumvir and Augustus the emperor. Here the narrative of Suetonius is conspicuously silent.

KIRBY F. SMITH.